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Administrators Should Teach

says CARL O. OLSON, JR., asnistant superatent for curriculum, Fredonia [New York] Central School District.

[re-printed at request of county teachers]

If teachers and administrators of public school systems don't understand each other, it is partly because some administrators are drifting away from the realities of the classroom. *And if they continue to drift away from these realities, administrators may become obsolete.*

Some see administration as a managerial function, divorced from teaching. Many see no connection between successful administration and an intimate understanding of the teaching - learning process. Many simply lose contact with the classroom little by little.

A main function of administration is to help improve the quality of the teaching - learning process. I believe that administrators who are aloof from the realities of the process cannot significantly contribute to its improvement. One cannot acquire keen understanding of the teaching - learning process by sitting as an observer in the back of a few classrooms a year. The administrator must keep in touch with the classroom in the only live way possible - by teaching.

I am not advocating that administrators assume continuing teaching assignments. *They need not - indeed, they should not - devote a lot of their time to teaching.*

Even so, many will claim they have no time for it. Some may think it wouldn't be worth the effort. A few might feel threatened by the prospect or consider it beneath their dignity. But without great personal sacrifice, an administrator who has confidence in his teaching ability and is willing to make some time for teaching gains much for his school *and* for himself.

Every time an administrator enters a classroom to teach, he emphasizes an often overlooked truth: The process of teaching and learning is a school's most important function.

The teaching administrator multiplies his contacts with students, increases his understanding of them, and enhances the quality of his relationships with them. He can do a better job of evaluating and improving his school's program than the administrator who never leaves his office. He often learns a great deal about the *real* operation of his school. If he is sufficiently sensitive, he will more readily identify and comprehend some of its problems. In short, he increases his feedback.

An administrator who teaches will have more realistic expectations of what can be accomplished in the classroom. He will be more aware that good teaching is demanding and exhausting work. After teaching Mrs. Brown's English classes for a few periods or a day, he will understand much better what "only one more" English section *really* means. He may now realize why the extra tape recorder is essential rather than "extra." Having personally faced some of the frustrations of teaching, an administrator may be more interested in trying to eliminate them.

A building principal, especially, should enjoy an improved relationship with his faculty if he teaches. As he demonstrates his interest in teaching, his ability to teach, and his awareness of the demands of teaching, faculty members will increasingly consider him a partner in the process of education - an integral member of the staff. Having tested his teaching concepts in the classroom, he will be unlikely to peddle educational postrums to his teachers.

Most administrators were formerly good teachers and have unique skills and abilities to offer. They can retain some of these skills or abilities by using them in the classroom on a recurring basis. For example, an American history teacher who becomes a principal could make a point of teaching certain specific lessons from time to time.

Additional opportunities for teaching require much less preparation: many arise spontaneously. And, in my opinion, the administrator who does not occasionally seize one of these opportunities - they are virtually endless - deprives himself of a genuine pleasure. Administrators who do teach find themselves stimulated and refreshed.

[Reprinted from NEA Journal: March 1968]

The Pastor Speaks

THE DEATH PENALTY

"In the beginning God created . . ."

I do not presume to have the answer for everyone. I do have my own answer with which you are free to disagree.

The Christian Church has always said that it is God who is the Creator and Sustainer of life. We have always maintained it was a gift, not something we earned the right to.

That which destroys life is seen as the opposite of God: evil. Cancer, excessive highway speed, or a murderer's bullet are considered to be evil because they potentially destroy God's gift of life. The Church, based on Holy Scripture, has always said that life is from God.

I believe for me to "play God" is evil. Playing God means that I make decisions that I have no right to make. It is evil because I presume to decide who has the right to life. I am not sure that God has given me that right and authority.

If He has given me that right and authority, then does it follow that I also have the right to judge at what point your wealth is excessive? It may be, in my judgement, that your wealth is hurtful to others because they are starving and dying.

The question is: Who has the right to life?

Society (to include everyone) has said that when you or I commit certain offences against it, we should be destroyed.

I do not believe that any society at any point in history has ever had the God-given right and authority to make that judgement. Life is created and sustained by the Lord God; only He has the right and authority to end it.

the Rev. E. Moray Peoples, Jr., Minister
St. Anne's Episcopal Church

WATCH

for turning cars

The Sunday School Lesson

HERBERT C. BRADSHAW
P. O. BOX 1833
DURHAM, N. C. 27702

Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for Sunday, March 24, 1974.
Topic: Giving One's Best
Scripture: Acts 6: 8 - 8:3

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12: 1-2.

One great benefit from reading the Scriptures is in finding examples worthy to follow. The characters we meet **in the Bible are human, just as** we are. Some characters provide negative examples, the evil in their lives showing us how not to live. Others provide positive examples, for though in their humanity they sinned, they sought forgiveness and persisted in their commitment and service to God. Examples which come readily to mind are such great leaders as Moses and David.

No better example to illustrate the topic of this week's International Sunday School lesson, "Giving One's Best," may be found than that of Stephen. Stephen is one of the most attractive persons to whom the Scriptures introduce us. From his name, he as a Hellenist, a Greek-speaking Jew, whose parents were Hellenists. He first appears in The Acts as the first named among the seven chosen by the Church in Jerusalem to supervise the distribution of goods to the needy. He is described as "a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit," and his brief ministry testifies to the truth of that description.

Stephen did not limit his work to serving tables, which he and his six colleagues were chosen to do to relieve the apostles of this time-consuming responsibility, in order that they might be free to devote their full time to preaching. Stephen preached also, but no indication that he neglected his responsibility to distribute food and clothing to the needy. Described as "full of grace and power," Stephen performed miracles and proclaimed Jesus so effectively that those who belonged to a synagogue of Greek-speaking Jews, which Stephen himself may have attended, challenged him in debate. They "could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke." Frustrated in argument, they got some men to charge Stephen with blasphemy, and on these charges he was brought before the Jewish court, the Sanhedrin. When he spoke in his defense before the court, "his face was like that of an angel," and when the court in anger precipitately rushed him out of the city and stoned him, Stephen in a true spirit of forgiveness, reminiscent of Jesus on the cross, prayed, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

Stephen's defense shows not only an intimate knowledge of the history of Israel but also a perceptive understanding of its meaning. Undoubtedly his use of this knowledge and understanding made debate with him difficult, even as it made him effective as a preacher.

Stephen's energy and effectiveness in wit nessing to his faith came from *his* full acceptance of the Holy Spirit *as* the guide for his life. This is the secret of effectiveness and usefulness in wit nessing and service today. Unquestionably a man of superior talents, Stephen did not rely on these alone but allowed the Holy Spirit to use them for the glory of God. He gave all that he had, his abilities and his life, in the service of Jesus Christ, which is the most anyone can do. In his living, as well as in his death, he followed the example of Jesus.

The outcome of Stephen's ministry is another evidence that God and man see success differently. Dedication to God's service does not always bring earthly rewards, but often hostility and persecution. Stephen's enemies saw his life as ending in ignominy. With the insight given by the Holy Spirit, Christians saw his death as passage from earth into the presence of God. The ignominy of execution by stoning, as the shame of the cross, was translated into the glory of fellowship with God.

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Jordan News

Sunday School Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.

Preaching services Sunday at 11 a.m.

The Junior Choir will go to Cannan at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

On Sunday night, beginning at 1 p.m., the Gospel Harmonettees will celebrate their 2nd anniversary. Groups appearing on this program will be the Starlight Singers, the Jordanaires, the Harps of Zion, the S. C. Terry Community Male Chorus, the Echoes of Joy, The Gladstone Gospelette, the Near the Cross Singers, The Gospel Entertainers, and the Community Singers of Halifax. The public is cordially invited to attend.

On next Thursday night, March 28, the Senior Choir will practice at 7:30 p.m.

On the 5th Sunday night at 7 p.m. There will be a talent program here. Come out and see what our local talent can do.

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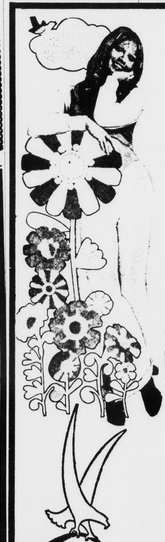
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Girl Scout Birthday Celebration

The Appomattox Unit of the Virginia Skyline Girl Scout took part in the ceremonies held Saturday, March 16th, at E. C. Glass High School. All units of the Girl Scouts of Lynchburg attended the impressive event.

Those above are chosen members from the local scout troops who presented a program on France in which both American and French Scouts meet each other and repeat the Girl Scout Promise both in English and in French. The girls were one of the skits presented.

A welcome was given by Mrs. Warren Middleton, District II Director, following which each Brownie and Girl Scout Troop passed in front of a special "Birthday Cake" to deposit the pennies their troop collected for the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

Troops represented were from Amherst, Appomattox, Brookneal, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte County, Lynbrook, Madison Heights, Rivermont - Peakland and Seven Hills.

Modernistic Hilltop News

Morning worship at Galilee Baptist church was well attended Sunday, at the 11 o'clock service hour. A very inspiring sermon was preached by the pastor Lawing. The theme for discussion was "God Is Not Dead Pastor Lawing stated that where there is life there is hope finds peace, and happiness in the home, church and community. God created man to live in the earth and in order to do a great plan of work here on earth. Lovely music was rendered by the senior choir under the direction of Mr. Lawing.

There was a number of visitors from other churches attended the morning service at Galilee Baptist church Sunday, March 17th. The attendance was high, and the morning offering was liberal. Everyone enjoyed the service

The 3 p.m. annual Woman's Day program was held at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Spout Spring. We learned that the program was a great success.

The third Sunday in April Junior Choir of Galilee Church will hold its annual Mother's Day at 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Mrs. Ruth Stevens is the sponsor of the program.

Mrs. Mistrial Turner was dismissed last Friday. We are glad to see is much improved at this writing.

Mrs. Willie Stevens was dismissed Lynchburg General Hospital Lodge Hospital early Wednesday morning, March 18th and underwent surgery. We are praying for a speedy recovery for her.

We pray for all of the sick in the community. Sister Leatha Hall is recovering slowly at her home.

Old Cross Drive has now become a Galilee Baptist church. The leader for the church is George E. Stevens. We ask all members and friends will contribute something toward the Red Cross Drive, when your leader calls on you.

The Modernistic Club meeting was held as planned due to several families, on Friday in this month.

The hostess will notify members as to when the next meeting is to be held.

The club feels very sad to let Nurse Holmes' name be released from membership in the club, but that is something the club is not able to control. Nurse Holmes has accepted a nursing position in Baltimore, Md. and at this writing, we are making her home in Baltimore, Md. Where as we are sad, at this writing, we are very happy to note that Nurse Holmes is making progress in her nursing position. We take off our hats to her and hope that Nurse Holmes will do a bigger, and better work in the field of nursing in the big city of Baltimore, than she did as a county nurse in Charlotte Court House, Va. More power to you Nurse Holmes.

In and out of town:

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Robinson, of Texas, were the week end guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. West of Appomattox and Mr. and Mrs. Robinson of Appomattox. We were proud to have had the Robinsons to visit Galilee Baptist Church for the Sunday morning 11 o'clock worship hour.

Mr. Larry Hamlette visited his mother and relatives in Appomattox. Mr. Hamlette has been ill but is much improved. He is a service man, We were proud to have had all visitors.

Miss E. H. Jordan attended her sorority meetingAKA in Lynchburg Sunday evening. She gave an account of a very interesting and informative meeting. The meeting was held at the home of Sarar Clare Seas.

Mrs. Hezitine Foster and Miss H. B. Stgevens attended the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority meeting held in Lynchburg Sunday evening at 5 p.m. The meeting was held at the home of Soror Polly Maloney. The meeting was well attended. Immediately after the business session was over, a delightful repast was served by the hostesses.

Mrs. T. W. Hamlett and Nurse Holmes visited relatives and friends in Maryland last week end.

See you next week!!!

KEEP IN TOUCH Get NEWS from HOME

PURITAN PULPIT

You . . . hate wickedness. Psalm 45:7

"BE YOU ANGRY, and sin not." There can hardly be sadness in a man if he be not angry at sin; he who loves truth must hate every false way. How our Lord Jesus hated it when the temptation came! Three times it assailed Him in different forms, but each time He met it with, "Get thee behind me, Satan." He hated it in others; none the less fervently because He showed His hate more often in tears of pity than in words of wrath. Woe unto thee, Lord the Lord was stern when he said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer." He hated wickedness, so much that He bled to wound it to the heart; He died that it might die; He was buried that He might bury it in the grave, and He rose that He might forever trample it under His feet. Christ is in the Gospel, and that Gospel is hostile to wickedness in every shape. Wickedness puts on many garments, and imitates the language of holiness; but the searchlights of Jesus, like His famous scourge of small cords, drives it out of the temple, and will not allow it in the Church.

Look, in the heart where Jesus reigns, what war there is between Christ and the devil! And when our Redeemer shall come to be our Judge, those thundering words, "Depart, you cursed, shall manifest His hatred of sin. As warm as is His love to righteousness, so hot is His Hatred of sin; as perfect as is His righteousness, so complete shall be the destruction of every form of wickedness.

Earnie W. Lucas, Pastor
Bible Baptist Church
Appomattox, Virginia 24522

A cordial invitation from:
We, the folks at Wilbun's Super Market, invite YOU to come in and see our "NEW" WILBUN'S SUPER MARKET. The shelves and floor space have been completely changed to give you - our fine customers - a new way and an easier way to grocery shop. We are centrally located in Appomattox with an extra - large paved parking area allowing easy access to and from the main road. Our aisles are big to allow you more space in which to move about more freely. Come by especially to see the grand selection of fresh meats which are cut and displayed daily. We have a beautiful arrangement of garden fresh produce. Our Frozen Food and Dairy Cases are filled with fresh and delicious foods that we will match second to none anywhere! And most of all - - we will give you the warm and friendly "hometown feeling" everytime you visit our store! Thank you.
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